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00862.022516.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Ryo TAKAI et al.) : Examiner: M. A. Lyons
Application No.: 10/073,593) : Group Art Unit: 2877
Filed: February 12, 2002) : Confirmation No. 4328
For: EXPOSURE APPARATUS INCLUDING)
INTERFEROMETER SYSTEM) : June 16, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 14590
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Further to the Information Disclosure Statements filed April 30, 2002, March 1, 2004, and May 13, 2004, in compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed PTO-1449 form. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

The information enclosed with this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement. Specifically, the attached Chinese Office Action dated April 2, 2004, was cited in a counterpart Chinese patent application. A translation of this Office Action is also enclosed.

Japanese patent document number 4-179115 discloses a structure which includes a mirror having an XY-plane disposed on a stage. Applicants believe, however, that this document does not disclose a structure for measuring a Z direction position to a lens barrel.

Applicants request that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 form be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

No fee is believed to be due with the filing of this paper. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 06-1205 should any fee be deemed necessary for filing this paper.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

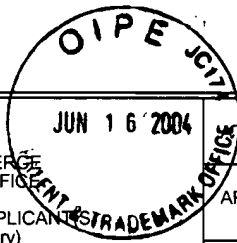


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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)		JUN 16 2004		PATENT DOCKET NO. 00862.022516.		APPLICATION NO. 10/073,593	
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE				APPLICANT Ryo TAKAI t al.			
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)				FILING DATE February 12, 2002		GROUP 2877	
June 16, 2004							
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		US-6,160,628	12/12/2000	Inoue	356	500	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		4-179115	06/25/1992	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
		Chinese Office Action dated April 2, 2004, issued in a corresponding Chinese patent application, No. 02105045.7.					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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